

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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BRIAN GULBRONSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

KYLE SMITH, et al.

Defendants.

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ORDER

Case No. 24-cv-141-jdp

Plaintiff Brian Gulbronson, an inmate in the custody of the Shawano County Jail in Shawano, Wisconsin, has submitted a proposed civil action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff has filed a certified copy of a trust fund account statement in support of a request for leave to proceed without prepaying the filing fee. After considering the account statement, I conclude that plaintiff qualifies for indigent status.

Even when an inmate litigant qualifies for indigent status, the litigant must pay a portion of the filing fee pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). Using information from plaintiff's trust fund account statement for the six-month period preceding the complaint, I calculate plaintiff's initial partial payment to be \$4.50. For this case to proceed, plaintiff must submit this amount on or before April 4, 2024.

If plaintiff does not have enough money to make the initial partial payment from a regular inmate account, then plaintiff should arrange with prison authorities to make the payment from a release account. However, prison officials will draw funds first from the plaintiff's regular account, and then, if any portion of the payment remains, from the plaintiff's release account. *Carter v. Bennett*, 399 F. Supp. 2d 936 (W.D. Wis. 2005). Federal courts have

no authority to order state officials to allow a prisoner to withdraw funds from a release account for any other purpose. *Id.*

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Plaintiff Brian Gulbranson is assessed an initial partial payment of \$4.50. Plaintiff must submit a check or money order payable to the clerk of court by April 4, 2024 or advise the court in writing why plaintiff is not able to make the initial partial payment.

2. If plaintiff fails to make the initial partial payment by April 4, 2024, or fails to show cause why the payment could not be made, then I will assume that plaintiff wishes to withdraw this action voluntarily. In that event, the case will be dismissed without prejudice to plaintiff refiling at a later date.

3. No further action will be taken in this case until the clerk's office receives the initial partial payment as directed above and the court has screened the complaint as required by the Prison Litigation Reform Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2). Once the screening process is complete, the court will issue a separate order.

Entered this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

BY THE COURT:

/s/  
ANDREW R. WISEMAN  
United States Magistrate Judge